D.J

(New) The process of claim 29, wherein said 90% or more of the hydrocarbons contained in the exhaust gas are saturated hydrocarbons.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claim 17.

Applicant respectfully requests that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above—identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's primary attorney—of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371–5237.

Respectfully submitted,

TABATA et al.

By their Attorneys,

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Dated: May 27, 1999

Douglas P. Mueller Reg No. 30,300

DPM:vvh

